

**ABSTRACT**

An universal connector is disclosed. The universal connector can be realized with a housing having an inlet port, an outlet port, and a tapered inner surface; and a restrictor fixedly attached to the housing. In some exemplar embodiments, the

5 universal connector is configured with a slot for receiving a tubing coupler. The universal connector may be realized in methods for securely coupling flexible tubing sections associated in a tubing assembly. A preferred method includes the steps of:

(1) selecting an appropriately configured universal connector; (2) inserting a first end of a tubing junction within the housing; and (3) axially rotating a second end of the

10 tubing junction until the tubing assembly junction is substantially aligned with the longitudinal axis of the connector.